

We claim:

1. A process for the preparation of [S(-) amlodipine -L(+)-hemi tartarate which comprises reacting RS amlodipine base with L(+) tartaric acid in an organic solvent at a temperature ranging from 20-35°C for the period ranging from 16 to 24 hours, separating the solid [R(=) amlodipin-L(+)-hemi tartarate] by filtration, seeding the filtrate to obtain solid [S(-) amlodipin-L(+)-hemi tartarate] by precipitation, filtering the solid and basifying to obtain [S(-) amlodipine -L(+)-hemi tartarate.
2. A process claimed in claim 1 wherein the solvent is DMSO
3. A process claimed in claim 1 wherein the solvent to amlodipine ratio is 5-6 ml/gm of amlodipine.
4. A process claimed in claim 1 wherein L-tartaric acid employed is about 0.5 mole per mole of amlodipine.
5. A process claimed in claim 1 wherein the solvate precipitated is S(-) smlodipine hemi L(+)-tartarate mono DMSO solvate.
6. A process claimed in claim 1 wherein a stirred solution of RS Amlodipine in DMSO was added to a solution of L(+) Tartaric acid in DMSO, the solid obtained separated by filtration, washed with acetone, dried to give R(+) MeOH, the filtrate seeded with S(-) amlodipine hemi L(+) tartarate salt, the solid so obtained filtered off and washed with acetone and dried to give S(-) amlodipine-hemi L(+)-tartarate mono DMSO solvate.